

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1-5. In Figs. 1-5, previously omitted words "Prior Art" have been added. Annotated sheets are attached.

Replacement sheets for formal drawings of Figs. 1-15 are also attached.

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Claims 1-28 are pending in the application. Claims 29-44 are added.

The subject matter of the newly added claims 29-44 is fully supported by the specification and figures and therefore no new matter has been added.

The specification amendments are based on and further clarify material already disclosed expressly and inherently in the specification and the drawings; therefore no new matter has been added.

The Brief Description of the Drawings is amended to correct obvious errors and label Figures 1-5 as prior art; therefore no new matter has been added.

Replacement of lines 11-12 on page 12 replaces the term "cleat elements" with "traction elements" which is a mere rephrasing of the term where the same meaning remains intact and thus does not constitute new matter. The use of the language "traction element" is supported by the Summary on page 6 lines 7-13 and the disclosure: "other types cleat elements are envisioned by this invention for channeling water away from the center of the travel path, as well as for traction." (page 13, lines 1-2).

A new paragraph added after line 11 on page 13 merely rephrases matter found in the specification, in particular in the Summary on page 5 lines 15-21, page 6 lines 1-2, and lines 20-21, and on page 7 lines 1-6; and in the Detailed Description on page 13 lines 12-17; page 14 lines 18-21; and page 15 lines 17-21. Additional support may be found in Figure 11. Thus, no new matter has been added.

Amendments to lines 12-21 on page 13 merely rephrase the information found in the Summary on page 7 lines 2-8, and in the Detailed Description on page 13 lines 19-20, page 14 lines 11-18, and page 15 lines 1-2. These amendments are further supported by Figures 6-8. Therefore, the amendment does not constitute new matter.

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An amendment to line 18 on page 14 merely rephrases the information found on page 14 lines 9-18, and is supported by Figs. 6-15; thus, no new matter is added.

Amendments to lines 5-8 on page 15 are a rephrasing of wording in those lines and are further supported by the Summary, page 7 lines 2-6, and Figures 9 and 10. Therefore, these amendments do not add new matter.

The drawing amendments are to label Figures 1-5 as prior art and to correct the format of Figures 6-15, therefore no new matter has been added.

An Information Disclosure Statement is attached, which is being filed before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits, therefore no fee under §1.17(p) is due at this time.

CONCLUSION

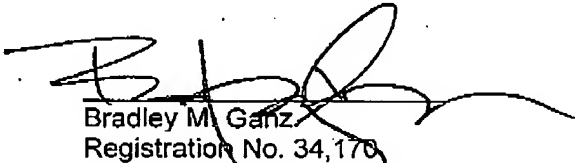
Applicant submits that in view of the foregoing remarks and/or amendments, the application is in condition for allowance, and favorable action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, including extension fees, or to charge any additional fees or underpayments, or to credit any overpayments, to the Credit Card account referenced on the accompanying Credit Card Payment form (PTO-2038). As an alternative, in case the Credit Card cannot be processed, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, additional fees, or underpayments, or to credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1001.

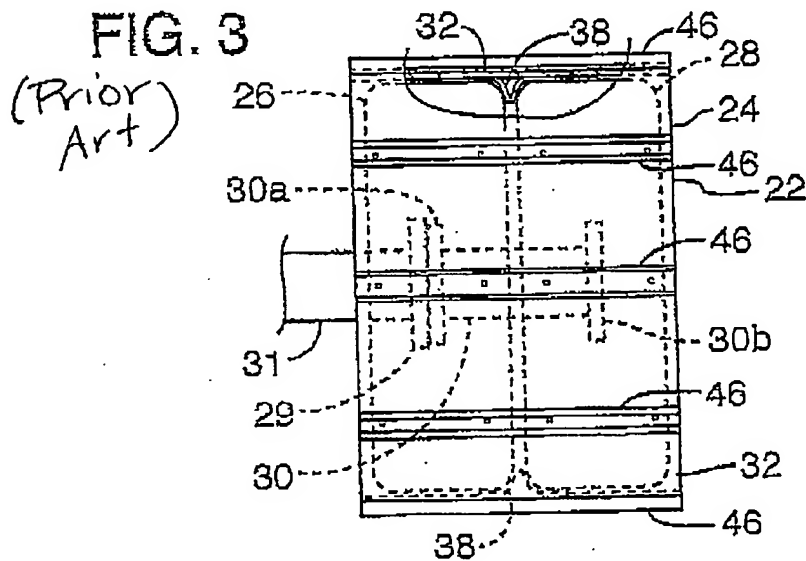
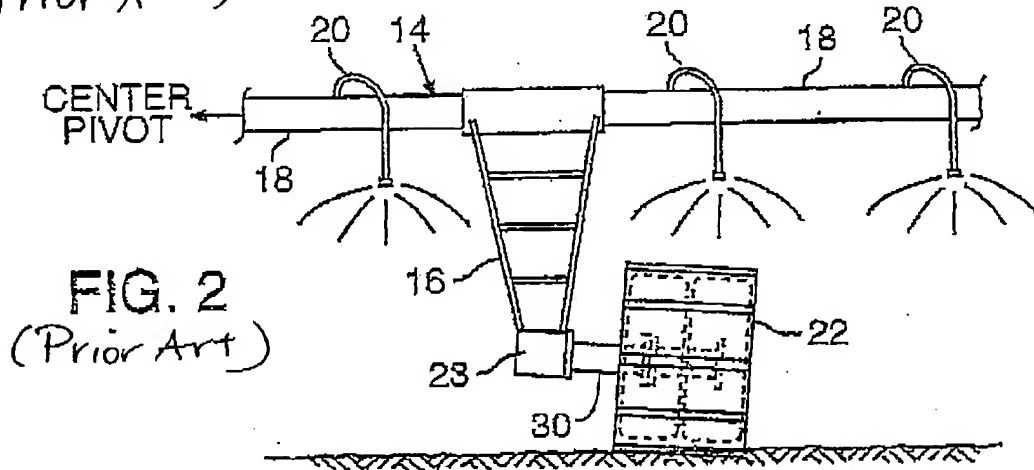
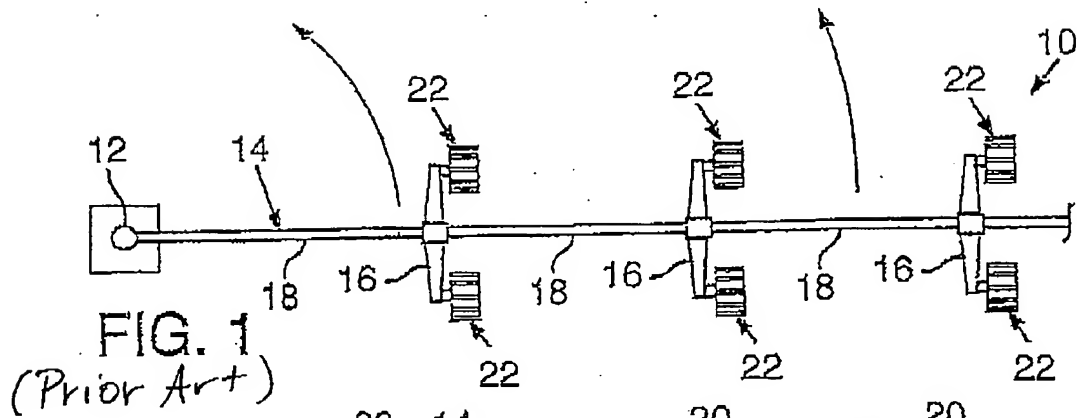
Respectfully submitted,

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ANNOTATED SHEET



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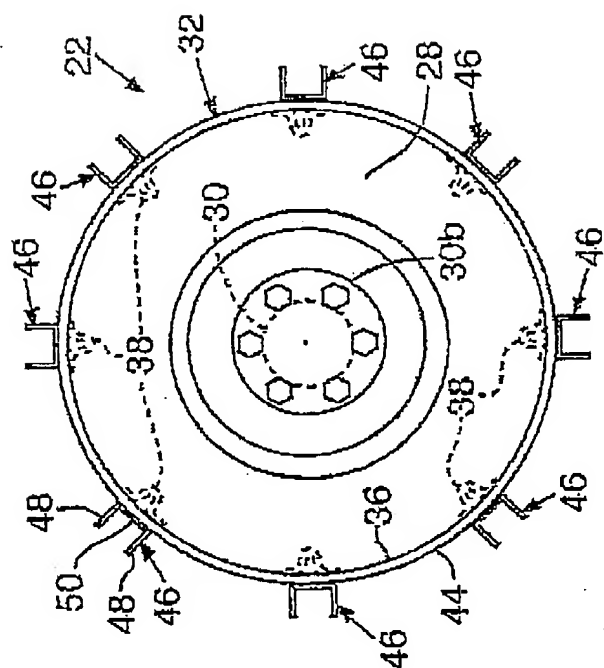
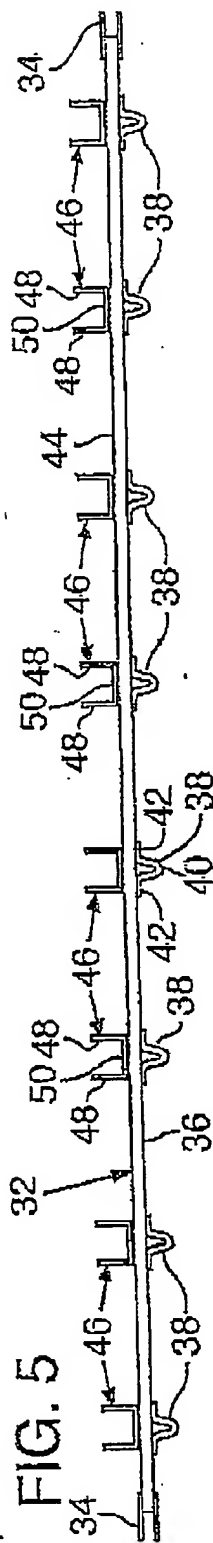


FIG. 4
(Prior Art)



(Prior Art)

FIG. 5